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03-18-04  
RCE/2800

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Application Number: 10/074,135  
Filing Date: February 12, 2002  
First Named Inventor: Thoma et al.  
Group Art Unit: 2828  
Examiner Name: Leon Scott Jr.  
Attorney Docket Number: US 20 01 0575  
CUSTOMER NO.: 27,623

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
Provides for continued examination of a utility or plant  
Application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 153 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a.            Previously submitted

i.            Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on            (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii.            Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on           

iii.            Other           

b. **XXXX** Enclosed

i. **XXXX** Amendment/Reply

ii.            Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii.            Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and PTO-1449

iv.            Other           

2. **Miscellaneous**

a.            Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of            months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b.            Other           

3. **Fees** The RCE fee Under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. **XXXX** The Director is hereby authorized to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **01-0467**.

i. **XXXX** RCE fee (\$770.00) required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)

ii.            Extension of Time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii.            Other           

b. **XXXX** Check in the amount of **\$770.00** enclosed

c.            Payment by credit card (Form PTO 2038 enclosed)

March 17, 2004  
Date of Signature

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**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Certificate No. **EV376161200**, service under 37 CFR §1.10 and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 17, 2004.

Allison Berkman  
(Typed name of person mailing paper)

(Signature of person mailing paper)

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